REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 27, 2005, claims 1, 14, and 17 have been amended. Claims 1-31 are in the case. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-12, 14, 15, 17-24, and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,067,582). Also, the Office Action rejected claims 9 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,067,582) in view of Barrett et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,647,056). In addition, the Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,067,582) in view of Van Horne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,430). Last, the Office Action rejected claims 4 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,067,582) in view of Logan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,680).

The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the amendments to the claims and the arguments below.

With regard to the rejections under U.S.C. 102, the Applicants respectfully submit that Smith et al. do not disclose, teach, or suggest all of the claimed features. Although Smith et al. disclose distributing, registering and purchasing software application and other digital information over a network (see Abstract of Smith et al.), Smith et al. fail to disclose all of the Applicants' claimed features. In particular, Smith et al. clearly does not disclose the Applicants' **newly** claimed "...automatically determining a number of licenses that are needed and associated costs of the licenses...and...automatically purchasing at least a portion of the licenses if an administrator decides that the portion of the licenses are desired..." Therefore, since all of the claimed elements are not disclosed by Smith et al., it cannot anticipate the claims, and hence, the Applicants submit that the rejection should be withdrawn.

With regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103, the combined references do not disclose, teach or suggest all of the Applicants' features. Namely, although Van Horne et al. disclose determining IP addresses (see 10:30 – 11:15 and Fig. 9 of Van Horne et al.) and Logan et al. disclose distributing billing information (see 3:5 – 15 of Logan et al.), the combined references still fail to disclose the Applicants' **newly**

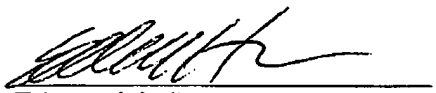
amended features of automatically determining a number of licenses that are **needed** and associated costs of the licenses and automatically purchasing at least a portion of the licenses if an administrator decides that the portion of the licenses are desired. This **failure** of the cited references, either alone or in combination, to disclose, suggest or provide motivation for the Applicant's claimed invention indicates a lack of a prima facie case of obviousness. Accordingly, the combined cited references cannot render the Applicant's invention obvious. W.L. Gore& Assocs. V. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983). (*MPEP 2143*). (MPEP 2143).

With regard to the rejection of the dependent claims, because they depend from the above-argued respective independent claims, and they contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, these claims are also considered to be patentable (MPEP § 2143.03).

In view of the arguments and amendments set forth above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejected claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding claim rejections and to pass this application to issue. Additionally, in an effort to expedite and further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants kindly invite the Examiner to **telephone** the Applicants' attorney at **(818) 885-1575**. Please note that all correspondence should continue to be directed to:

Hewlett Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

Respectfully submitted,
Dated: October 27, 2005



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